

WC 05-197

DO NOT FILE COPY ORIGINAL

STAMP & RETURN

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)
Sprint Communications Company LP)
Section 63.71 Application for the)
Discontinuance of Resold Interexchange)
Services)
_____)

RECEIVED

MAY 17 2005

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

APPLICATION

Sprint Communications Company LP ("Sprint"), pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 63.71 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. §63.71, hereby respectfully submits the above-captioned application to discontinue its provision of local service to both residential and business customers served by the Gaithersburg wire center of Verizon Maryland Inc. ("Verizon").¹ Sprint currently provides local service to these customers using the Unbundled Network Element-Platform ("UNE-P") offering of Verizon. However, Verizon will discontinue offering UNE-P upon conversion of its Gaithersburg wire center switch from circuit to packet later this year. Thus, Sprint has determined that it would be more cost effective to discontinue offering local service to customers impacted by Verizon's circuit to packet switch conversion rather than migrate these customers to an alternative local service arrangement such as resale or unbundled local element – loop (UNE-L) service.

The information required by Section 63.71(b) to be included in an application for

¹ Currently Sprint provides local service to approximately 81 business and residential customers served by Verizon's Gaithersburg switch. Some of these customers have subscribed more than one line to Sprint.

discontinuance filed with the Commission is set forth below. Sprint understands that its application will be automatically granted on the 31st date following the release date of the Public Notice of Sprint's discontinuance application without further action from the Commission unless the Commission advises Sprint to the contrary.

A. Name and Address of Carrier

Sprint Communications Company L.P.
6360 Sprint Parkway,
Overland Park, Kansas 66251

B. Date of Planned Discontinuance

On or about May 10, 2005, Sprint sent letters to each of its customers who will be affected by the discontinuance advising them that they should select a new local carrier by June 10, 2005. Those customers are also being informed that if they do switch their local service, they will lose local service from Sprint "on June 17, 2005 or as soon thereafter as practical." As stated, Sprint understands that it will not be allowed to discontinue service until the 30-day notice period begun upon the issuance of the Commission's Public Notice expires. Nonetheless, Sprint plans to end its provision of local service in the area served by Verizon's Gaithersburg switch no later than July 1, 2005.

C. Geographic Areas of Service Affected

Gaithersburg, Maryland.

D. Type of Service Affected

Local service provided on through UNE-P interconnection.

E. Method of Notice to Customers

As stated, each of Sprint's business and residential customers received a letter on or about May 10, 2005 informing them of Sprint's decision to discontinue its provision of local service. Copies of these letters are attached.

F. Regulatory Status of Applicant

Sprint is a non-dominant carrier with respect to the service being discontinued.

Respectfully submitted,


Sprint Communications Company LP

Michael B. Fingerhut
401 9th Street NW, Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 585-1909
michael.b.fingerhut@mail.sprint.com

Its Attorney

May 17, 2005



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR ACCOUNT

[date]
[name]
[address]
[city, state, zip]

Dear Customer:

We're contacting you and other Sprint Complete Sense® for Business customers to let you know that Sprint is planning to discontinue the Sprint Complete Sense service to certain business customers in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The discontinuance applies to all Sprint Complete Sense business lines and services and is made necessary by local network issues beyond Sprint's control. Sprint has notified the Maryland Public Service Commission of the discontinuance and requested permission from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to discontinue the service.

Please make arrangements with another provider of local telecommunications services by June 10, 2005, in order to ensure your order is processed in time to avoid a service interruption and to avoid losing your current business telephone number. Sprint Complete Sense customers who have not made arrangements for local service from other providers will be disconnected from local services on June 17, 2005, or as soon thereafter as practical.

Generally, you can find a list of most local service providers in your local telephone directory. You can contact one of our customer service representatives at 1-866-852-9557 if you have questions or need assistance.

You will have the opportunity to subscribe to the long-distance provider of your choice once you select your new local service provider. After you have established local service with your new provider, please contact Sprint at 1-866-852-9557 to establish long-distance savings plans with Sprint.

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments within 15 days after receipt of this notification. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554, referencing the §63.71 Application of Sprint Communications Company L.P. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

Thank you for choosing Sprint Complete Sense service. It has been our privilege to provide this service to you, and we look forward to continuing to provide you long-distance services in the future.

Sincerely,

Sprint Customer Service



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR ACCOUNT

[date]
[name]
[address]
[city, state, zip]

Dear Customer:

We're contacting you and other Sprint Complete SenseSM customers to let you know that Sprint is planning to discontinue the Sprint Complete Sense service to certain customers in the Gaithersburg, Maryland area. The discontinuance is made necessary by local network issues beyond our control. Sprint is simultaneously notifying the Maryland Public Service Commission of the discontinuance and requesting permission from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to discontinue the service. **Please make arrangements with another provider of local telecommunications services by June 10, 2005 in order to insure your order is processed in time to avoid a service interruption and to avoid losing your current home telephone number.** Those Sprint Complete Sense customers who have not made arrangements for local service from other providers will be disconnected from local services on June 17, 2005 or as soon thereafter as practicable.

Generally, you can find a list of most local service providers in your local telephone directory. You can contact one of our customer service representatives at 1-800-882-7802 if you have questions or need assistance. For USAA members, please contact 1-866-464-8722 if you have questions.

You will have the opportunity to subscribe to the long-distance provider of your choice once you select your new local service provider. After you have established local service with your new provider, please contact Sprint at 1-800-PIN-DROP to establish long-distance savings plans with Sprint.

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments within 15 days after receipt of this notification. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554, referencing the §63.71 Application of Sprint Communications Company L.P. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

Thank you for choosing Sprint Complete Sense service. It has been our privilege to provide this service to you, and we look forward to continuing to provide you long-distance services in the future.

Sincerely,

Sprint Customer Service

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing **APPLICATION** of Sprint Communications Company LP was filed by hand delivery and copies sent by United States first-class mail, postage prepaid on this the 17th day of May 2005 to the below-listed parties.


Christine Jackson

May 17, 2005

SENT BY U.S. MAIL

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Office of the Governor
State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1925

SENT BY U.S. MAIL

O. Ray Bourland
Executive Secretary
Public Service Commission of Maryland
William Donald Schaefer Tower
6 St. Paul Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-6806

SENT BY U.S. MAIL

Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Assistant for
Telecommunications
Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

SENT BY E-MAIL AND BY HAND

Julie Veach
Acting Division Chief
Competition Policy Division
Wireline Competition Bureau
Room 5-A225
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

SENT BY E-MAIL AND BY HAND

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554